



Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

Kentucky

2004-2005

Prepared by:
The Kentucky Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet, Department of Labor
In Cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics

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Introduction

The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) program was developed by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) to compile a comprehensive, accurate, and timely measure of fatal work injuries that occur during the year.

The CFOI program is a Federal/State cooperative program. The program was expanded to include all 50 states and the District of Columbia in 1992. This is Kentucky's fourteenth year participating in the program.

The CFOI program currently includes private sector, public sector, military, self-employed, and certain volunteers. To be included in this report, the incident leading to the fatality must have occurred in the reference state (Kentucky) during the reference year, and the fatality must be work-related according to the CFOI guidelines.

Many of these fatalities involve workers not covered under the jurisdiction of Federal or State agencies engaged in consultation-related, prevention-related, or regulatory activities in safety and health. Among these workers are the self-employed, laborers on small farms, and certain government employees. Thus CFOI data, which covers these workers may differ from data obtained through other administrative sources.

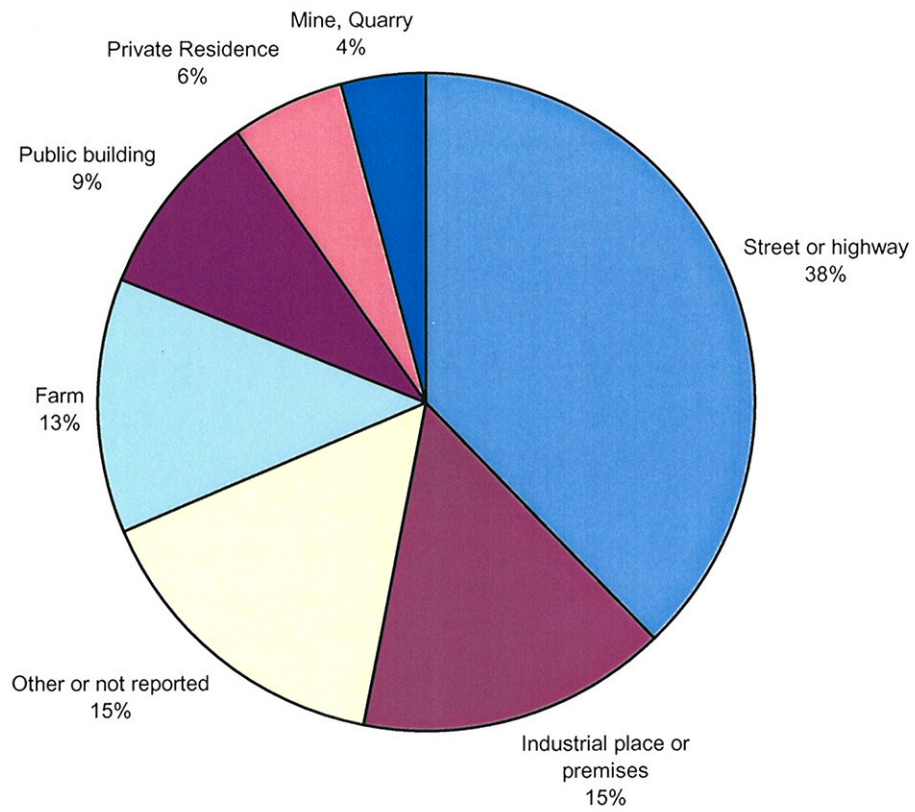
Timely information on all fatal occupational injuries were compiled from a variety of administrative sources including death certificates, motor vehicle traffic accident reports, medical examiners reports, newspaper articles, Kentucky and Federal Worker's Compensation reports and other government investigative reports. Each fatality was substantiated by either two independent source documents or one source document and a follow-up questionnaire to the employer or other contact (excluding next-of-kin) who had knowledge about the circumstances of the incident.

The Kentucky CFOI program provides useful data for identifying hazardous industries, occupations, activities, and equipment involved in work-related fatalities. The CFOI program gives both public and private analysts and leaders information that will lead to safer working conditions.

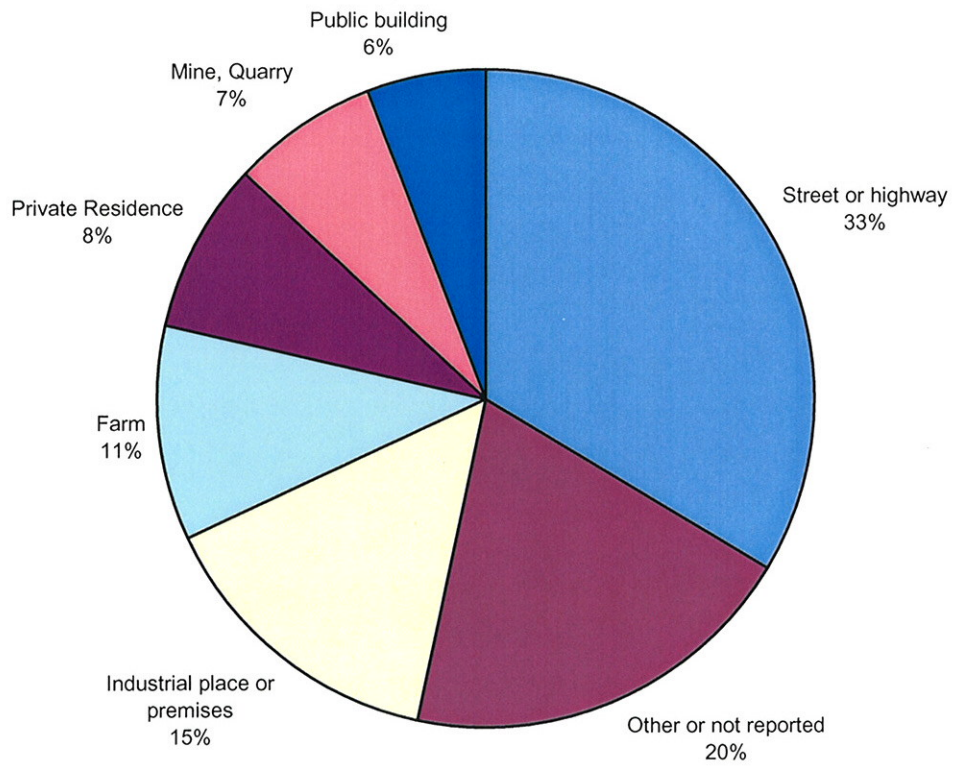
Summary of Observations

- ◆ The number of Occupational Fatalities in Kentucky decreased from 143 in 2004 to 122 in 2005.
- ◆ Transportation Incidents were the leading cause of death in 2004 and 2005. In this category there was a 32 percent decline in the number of cases from 2004 to 2005.
- ◆ Workers in the Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting industry experienced 17 percent of all deaths in the year 2004 and 20 percent of fatalities in 2005.
- ◆ The data indicate that the age range with the highest number of fatal occupational injuries was 35 to 44 in 2004 and 45-54 in 2005.
- ◆ White, non-Hispanics accounted for over 90 percent of work related fatalities in both years.
- ◆ Vehicles were the primary source of the fatality in 58 percent of the cases in the year 2004 and 48 percent in 2005. Of these incidents, tractors were involved in about 20 percent of these cases and trucks were involved in over 50 percent.
- ◆ For workers with occupations in construction and extraction falls increased from 6 in 2004 to 11 in 2005. For this group, contact with objects & equipment decreased by the same amount.
- ◆ Of the 143 occupational fatalities in 2004, 128 were men and 15 were women. Of the 122 fatalities in the year 2005, 115 were men and 7 were women.
- ◆ Workplace homicides increased from 9 in the year 2004 to 11 in the year 2005.
- ◆ In 2004 there were 10 fatalities in the government sector. This number increased to 12 for the year 2005.
- ◆ Approximately 20 percent of the fatalities in both years involved individuals that were self-employed.

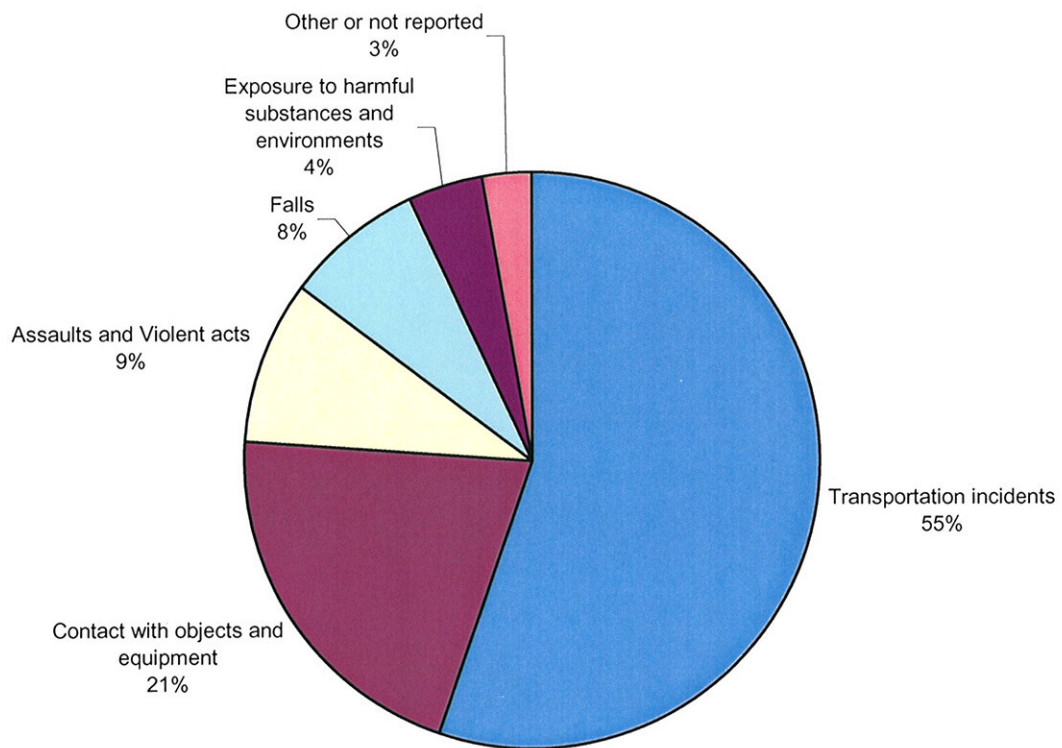
**2004 Fatal work injuries by location, all ownerships
(143 Total fatalities)**



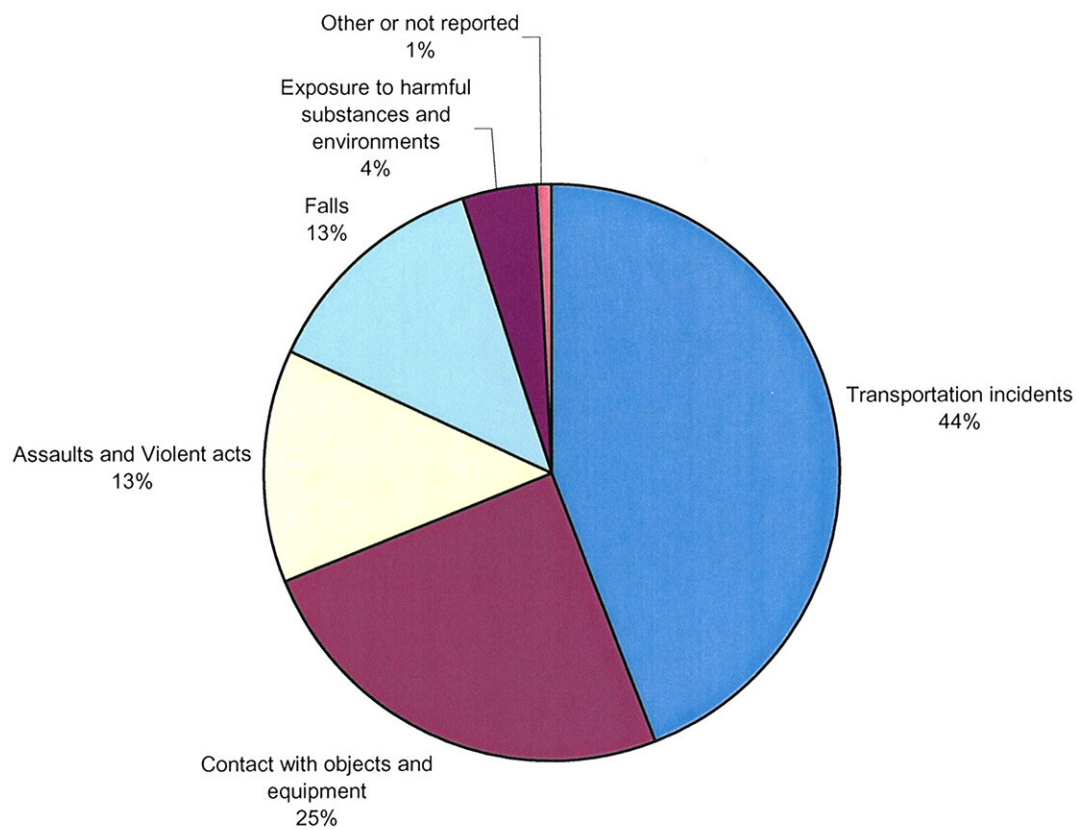
**2005 Fatal work injuries by location, all ownerships
(122 Total fatalities)**



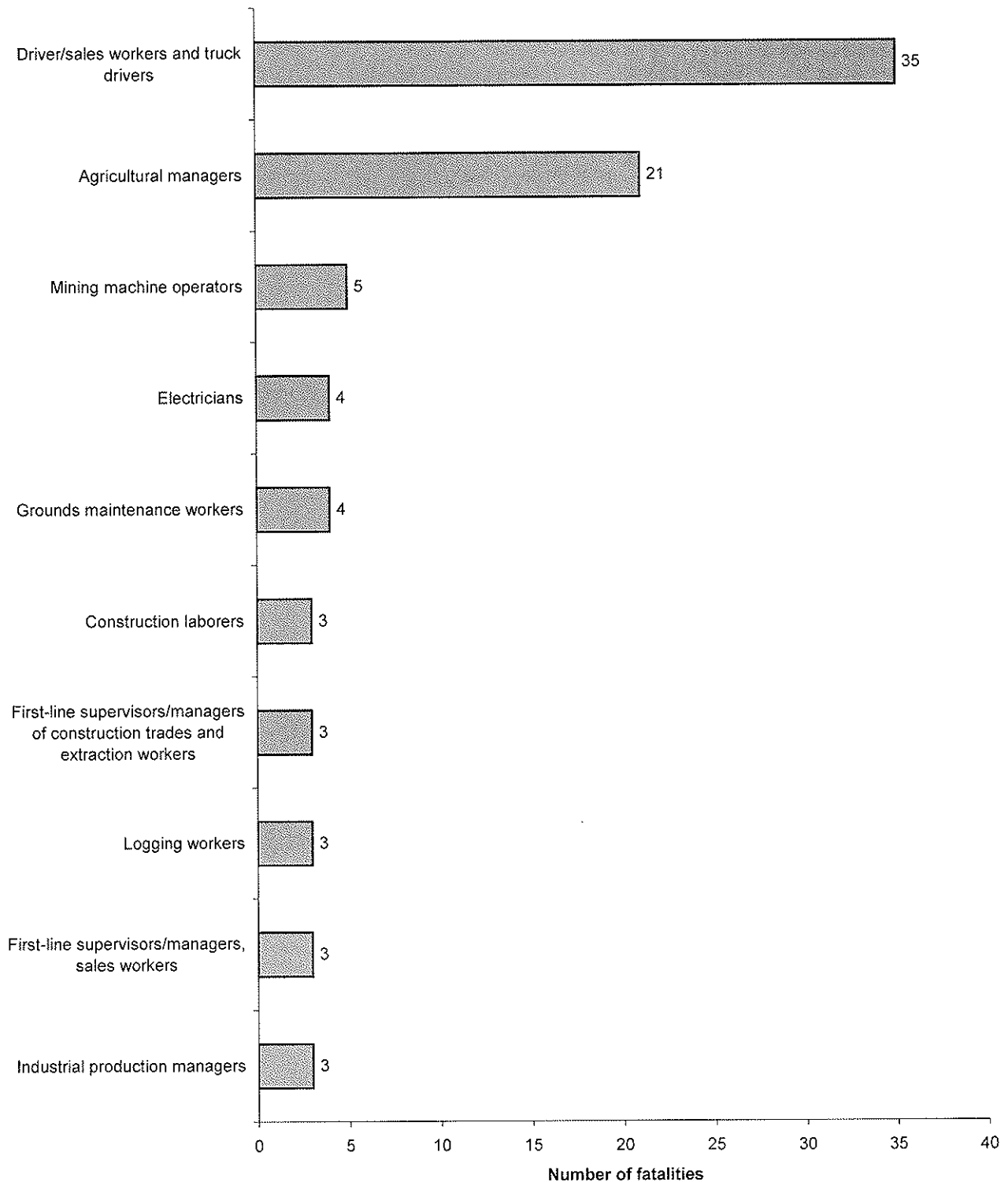
**2004 Workplace fatalities by event or exposure, all ownerships
(143 Total fatalities)**



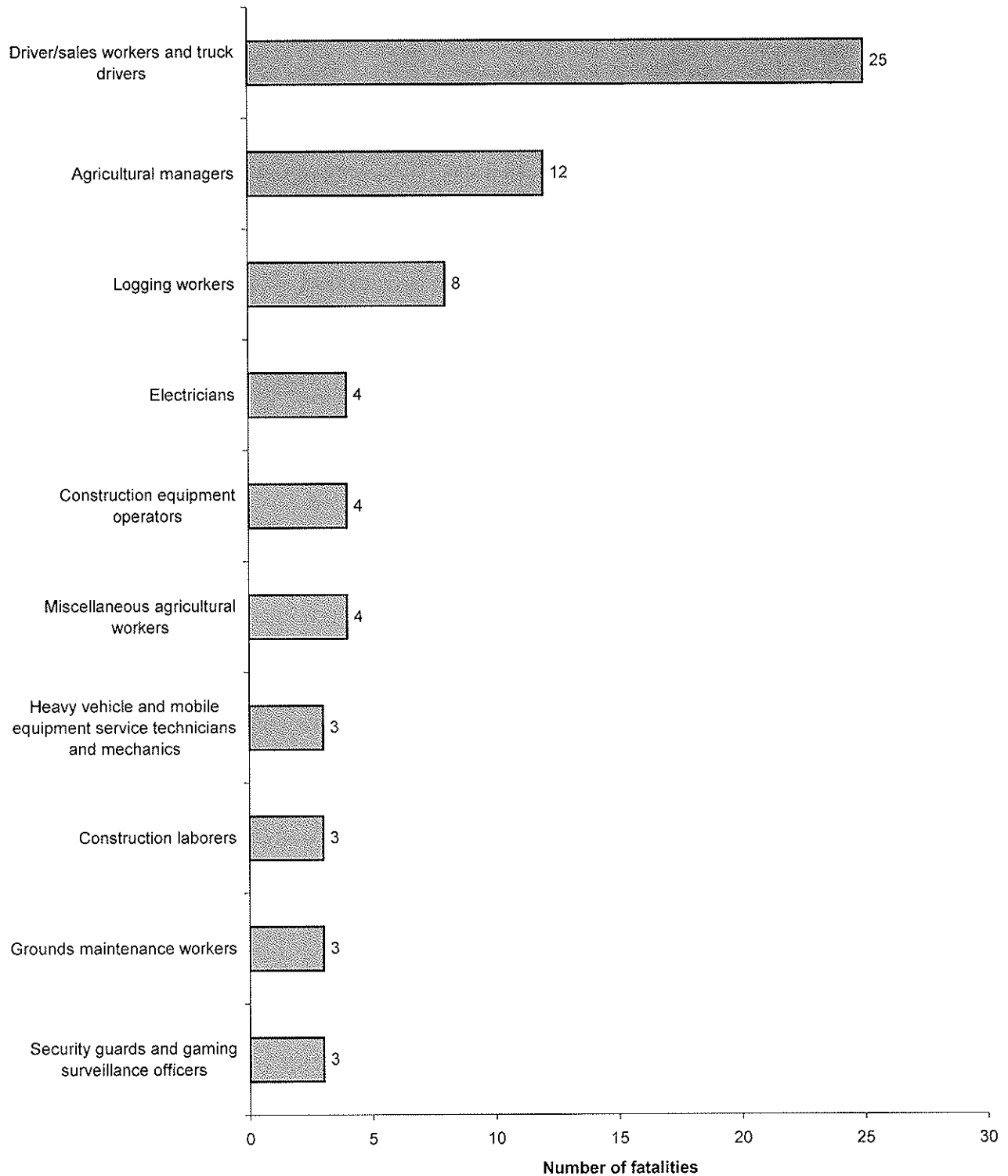
**2005 Workplace fatalities by event or exposure, all ownerships
(122 Total fatalities)**



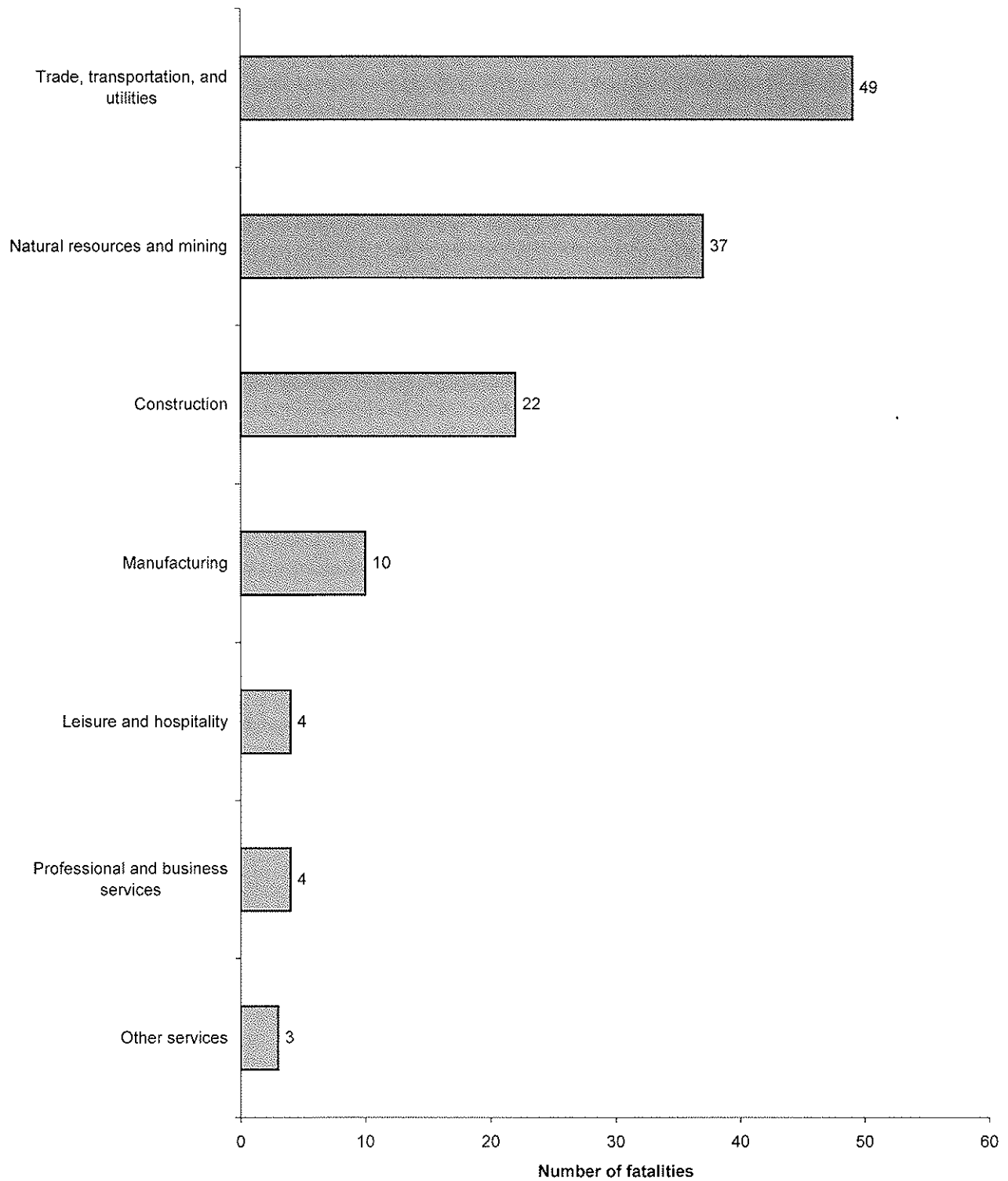
**2004 Occupations with the largest number of worker fatalities,
All ownerships (143 Total fatalities)**



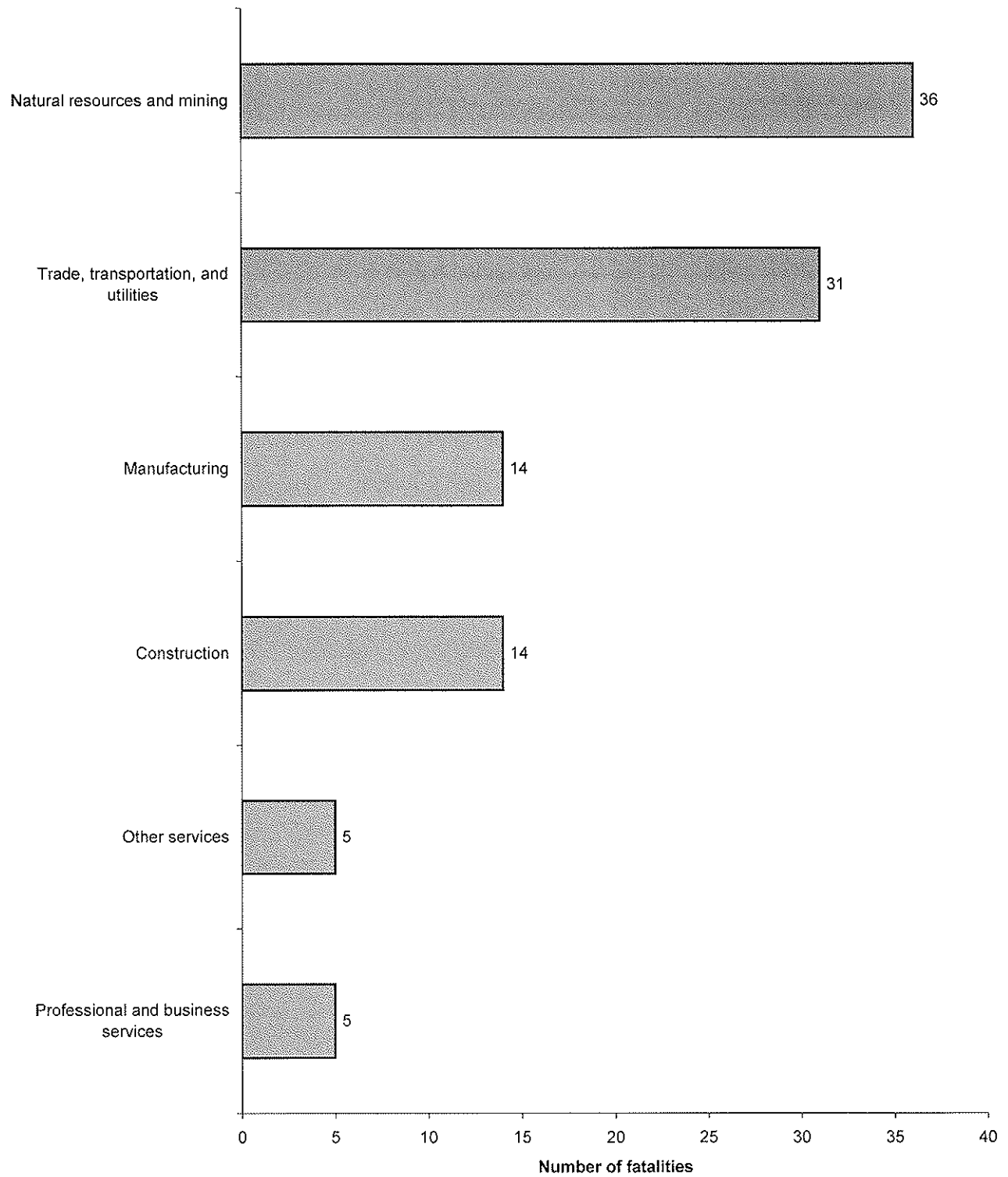
**2005 Occupations with the largest number of worker fatalities,
All ownerships (122 Total fatalities)**



**2004 Fatal work injuries in selected industries, all ownerships
(143 Total fatalities)**



**2005 Fatal work injuries in selected industries, all ownerships
(122 Total fatalities)**



Fatal Work Injury Counts 1996-2005

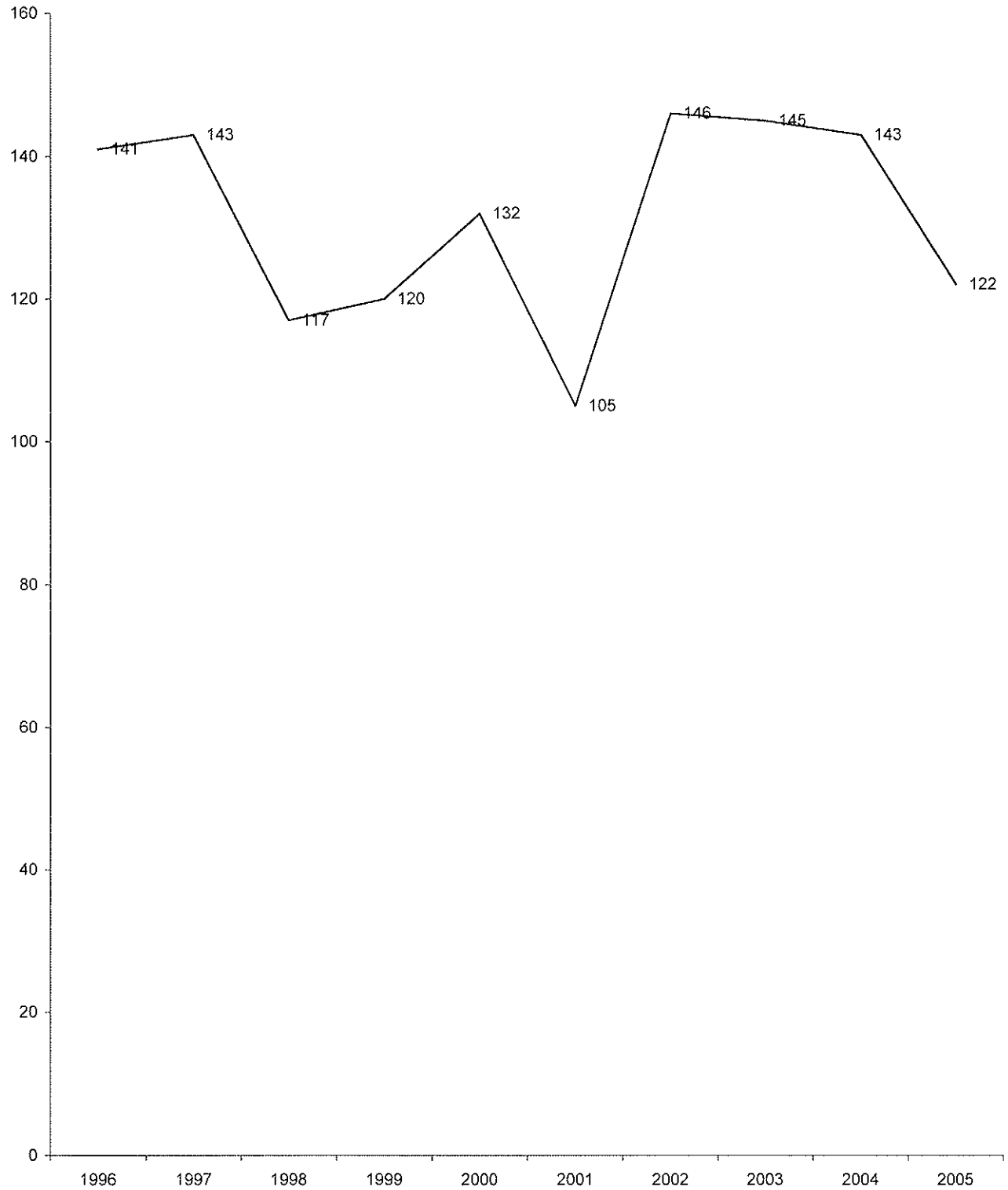


Table 1. Fatal occupational injuries by worker characteristics and location

Characteristic	All Industries 2004	All Industries 2005
Total	143	122
Employee status:		
Wage and salary workers.....	110	96
Self-employed.....	33	26
Gender:		
Men.....	128	115
Women.....	15	7
Age:		
Under 16 years.....	--	--
16 to 17 years.....	--	--
18 to 19 years.....	--	--
20 to 24 years.....	8	11
25 to 34 years.....	20	25
35 to 44 years.....	41	15
45 to 54 years.....	34	31
55 to 64 years.....	20	24
65 years and over.....	18	13
Race or ethnic origin:		
White, non-Hispanic.....	133	110
Black, non-Hispanic.....	7	5
Hispanic or Latino.....	--	6
American Indian, Aleut, Eskimo.....	--	--
Asian.....	--	--
Pacific Islander.....	--	--
Multiple races.....	--	--
Other or not reported.....	--	--
Location:		
Private residence.....	8	10
Farm.....	18	13
Mine, quarry.....	6	9
Industrial place and premises.....	22	18
Place for recreation or sports.....	--	--
Street and highway.....	54	41
Public building.....	13	7
Residential institutions.....	--	--
Other or not reported.....	20	22

Persons identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race.

The race categories shown exclude data for Hispanics and Latinos.

NOTE: Dashes indicate no data or data that do not meet publication criteria. Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately.

Data for 2005 are preliminary.

Table 2. Fatal occupational injuries by case characteristics

Characteristic	All Industries 2004	All Industries 2005
Total:	143	122
Nature:		
Intracranial injuries.....	15	19
Other traumatic injuries.....	42	27
Internal injuries.....	11	14
Asphyxiations, suffocations.....	18	8
Drownings.....	3	--
Electrocutions.....	3	3
Poisonings, toxic effects.....	7	--
Open wounds.....	13	15
Gunshot wounds.....	11	12
Burns (heat, chemical, etc.).....	10	--
Multiple traumatic injuries.....	61	57
Intracranial injuries and injuries to internal organs.....	18	3
Part of body:		
Head.....	20	21
Trunk.....	13	19
Chest.....	10	16
Back.....	--	--
Neck.....	--	3
Lower extremities.....	--	--
Upper extremities.....	--	--
Body systems.....	31	12
Multiple	76	66

Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual.

NOTE: Dashes indicate no data or data that do not meet publication criteria. Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately.

Data for 2005 are preliminary.

Table 3. Fatal occupational injuries by case characteristics

Source	All Industries 2004	All Industries 2005
Total:	143	122
Primary source:		
Vehicles.....	83	59
Highway vehicles.....	59	42
Automobiles.....	12	9
Trucks.....	43	30
Plant and industrial powered vehicles, tractors.....	19	13
Tractors.....	16	12
Structures and surfaces.....	11	18
Floors, walkways, ground surfaces.....	9	16
Machinery.....	9	12
Construction, logging, and mining machinery.....	4	5
Parts and materials.....	4	6
Persons, plants, animals, and minerals.....	13	8
Trees, logs.....	8	7
Chemicals and chemical products.....	3	--
Tools, instruments, and equipment.....	3	--
Other.....	16	13
Bullets and pellets.....	11	12
Secondary source:		
Vehicles.....	32	23
Highway vehicles.....	29	19
Plant and industrial powered vehicles, tractors.....	--	3
Structures and surfaces.....	18	21
Floors, walkways, ground surfaces.....	6	8
Structures.....	7	8
Machinery.....	5	4
Persons, plants, animals, and minerals.....	19	16
Persons -other than injured worker.....	9	11
Robber.....	4	--
Trees, logs.....	8	3
Tools, instruments, and equipment.....	--	4
Containers.....	3	--
No secondary source.....	58	50

Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual.

The primary source of injury identifies the object, substance, or exposure that directly produced or inflicted the injury.

For most transportation incidents, the primary source identifies the vehicle in which the deceased was an occupant.

For most falls, the primary source identifies the source or object contacted.

The secondary source of injury, if any, identifies the object, substance, or person that generated the source of injury or that contributed to the event or exposure. For vehicle collisions, the deceased's vehicle is the primary source and the other object (truck, road divider, etc.) is the secondary source. For most homicides, the "bullet" is the primary and the "perpetrator" is the secondary source. For most falls, the secondary source identifies the equipment or or surface from which the worker fell. Dashes: data that does not meet guidelines. Data for 2005 are preliminary.

Table 4. Fatal occupational injuries by case characteristics

Event or Exposure	All Industries 2004	All Industries 2005
Total:.....	143	122
Event or exposure:		
Contact with objects and equipment.....	30	30
Struck against object.....	3	--
Struck by object.....	18	22
Struck by falling object.....	14	11
Struck by rolling, sliding objects on floor or ground level.....	--	7
Caught in or compressed by equipment or objects.....	5	5
Caught in running equipment or machinery.....	--	3
Caught in or crushed in collapsing materials.....	4	--
Excavation or trenching cave-in.....	3	--
Falls.....	11	16
Fall to lower level.....	9	14
Fall from ladder.....	--	3
Fall from roof.....	4	3
Fall from scaffold, staging.....	--	--
Fall from building girders or other structural steel.....	--	3
Exposure to harmful substances or environments.....	6	5
Contact with electric current.....	3	3
Exposure to caustic, noxious, or allergenic substances.....	--	--
Oxygen deficiency (including drowning).....	--	--
Transportation incidents.....	79	54
Highway incidents.....	49	31
Collision between vehicles, mobile equipment.....	24	17
Moving in same direction.....	9	--
Moving in opposite directions, oncoming.....	12	10
Moving in intersection.....	--	3
Vehicle struck stationary object, equipment on side of road.....	11	3
Noncollision incidents.....	14	10
Jack-knifed or overturned--no collision.....	9	4
Ran off highway--no collision.....	4	4
Non-highway incident, except rail, air, water.....	20	14
Noncollision incident.....	19	13
Fell from and struck by vehicle, mobile equipment.....	6	--
Overturned.....	13	10
Pedestrian, nonpassenger struck by vehicle, mobile equipment.....	3	7
Pedestrian struck by vehicle, mobile equipment in parking lot or non-roadway area.....	--	4
Aircraft incidents.....	--	--
Fires and explosions.....	--	--
Assaults and violent acts.....	13	16
Homicides.....	9	11
Self inflicted injuries.....	3	3
Other or not reported.....	--	--

Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual

Table 5. Fatal occupational injuries by occupation and event or exposure, 2004

Occupation ¹	Total fatalities (number)	Event or exposure ²					
		Transportation incidents ³	Assaults and violent acts ⁴	Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful substances or environments	Fires and explosions
Total.....	143	79	13	30	11	6	--
Management occupations.....	27	18	--	5	--	--	--
Operations specialties managers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Industrial production managers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Industrial production managers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other management occupations.....	22	16	--	5	--	--	--
Agricultural managers.....	21	16	--	4	--	--	--
Farmers and ranchers.....	19	15	--	3	--	--	--
Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Protective service occupations.....	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations.....	6	3	--	3	--	--	--
Grounds maintenance workers.....	4	--	--	3	--	--	--
Grounds maintenance workers.....	4	--	--	3	--	--	--
Sales and related occupations.....	10	4	5	--	--	--	--
Supervisors, sales workers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
First-line supervisors/managers, sales workers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
First-line supervisors/managers of retail sales workers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Retail sales workers.....	3	--	3	--	--	--	--
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	3	--	--	3	--	--	--
Forest, conservation, and logging workers.....	3	--	--	3	--	--	--
Logging workers.....	3	--	--	3	--	--	--
Fallers.....	3	--	--	3	--	--	--
Construction and extraction occupations.....	31	6	--	11	6	3	--
Supervisors, construction and extraction workers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
First-line supervisors/managers of construction trades and extraction workers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
First-line supervisors/managers of construction trades and extraction workers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Construction trades workers.....	17	4	--	4	4	3	--
Construction laborers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Construction laborers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Construction equipment operators.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Operating engineers and other construction equipment operators.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Electricians.....	4	--	--	--	--	3	--
Electricians.....	4	--	--	--	--	3	--
Extraction workers.....	11	--	--	7	--	--	--
Mining machine operators.....	5	--	--	5	--	--	--
Mining machine operators, all other.....	5	--	--	5	--	--	--
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Production occupations.....	5	--	--	--	--	--	--
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	42	38	--	--	--	--	--
Motor vehicle operators.....	35	32	--	--	--	--	--
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers.....	35	32	--	--	--	--	--
Driver/sales workers.....	3	3	--	--	--	--	--
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer.....	25	23	--	--	--	--	--
Truck drivers, light or delivery services.....	7	6	--	--	--	--	--
Material moving workers.....	4	3	--	--	--	--	--

¹ Based on the 2000 Standard Occupational Classification System.

² Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual.

³ Includes highway, nonhighway, air, water, rail fatalities, and fatalities resulting from being struck by a vehicle.

⁴ Includes violence by persons, self-inflicted injury, and attacks by animals.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. Data for years prior to 2005 are revised and final.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State and Federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

Table 6. Fatal occupational injuries by occupation and event or exposure, 2005

Occupation ¹	Total fatalities (number)	Event or exposure ²					
		Transportation incidents ³	Assaults and violent acts ⁴	Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful substances or environments	Fires and explosions
Total.....	122	54	16	30	16	5	--
Management occupations.....	14	9	--	--	--	--	--
Other management occupations.....	12	7	--	--	--	--	--
Agricultural managers.....	12	7	--	--	--	--	--
Farmers and ranchers.....	10	6	--	--	--	--	--
Protective service occupations.....	7	--	4	--	--	--	--
Other protective service workers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Security guards and gaming surveillance officers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Security guards.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations.....	5	3	--	--	--	--	--
Grounds maintenance workers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Grounds maintenance workers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sales and related occupations.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	12	5	--	5	--	--	--
Agricultural workers.....	4	3	--	--	--	--	--
Miscellaneous agricultural workers.....	4	3	--	--	--	--	--
Forest, conservation, and logging workers.....	8	--	--	5	--	--	--
Logging workers.....	8	--	--	5	--	--	--
Fallers.....	7	--	--	4	--	--	--
Construction and extraction occupations.....	23	3	--	6	11	--	--
Construction trades workers.....	17	--	--	3	10	--	--
Construction laborers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Construction laborers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Construction equipment operators.....	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Operating engineers and other construction equipment operators.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Electricians.....	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Electricians.....	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Extraction workers.....	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	11	3	--	3	--	--	--
Vehicle and mobile equipment mechanics, installers, and repairers.....	5	3	--	--	--	--	--
Heavy vehicle and mobile equipment service technicians and mechanics...	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Mobile heavy equipment mechanics, except engines.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	5	--	--	--	--	--	--
Industrial machinery installation, repair, and maintenance workers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Production occupations.....	6	--	--	5	--	--	--
Assemblers and fabricators.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Miscellaneous assemblers and fabricators.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Assemblers and fabricators, all other.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	31	20	--	6	--	--	--
Motor vehicle operators.....	26	19	--	--	--	--	--
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers.....	25	19	--	--	--	--	--
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer.....	19	14	--	--	--	--	--
Truck drivers, light or delivery services.....	5	5	--	--	--	--	--
Material moving workers.....	3	--	--	3	--	--	--

¹ Based on the 2000 Standard Occupational Classification System.

² Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual.

³ Includes highway, nonhighway, air, water, rail fatalities, and fatalities resulting from being struck by a vehicle.

⁴ Includes violence by persons, self-inflicted injury, and attacks by animals.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. Data for 2005 are preliminary.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State and Federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

Table 7. Fatal occupational injuries by State and event or exposure, 2004-2005

State of injury	Total Fatalities ¹		Event or exposure ² 2005					
	2004 ⁴ (revised)	2005 ⁵	Transportation incidents ⁶	Assaults and violent acts ⁶	Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful substances or environments	Fires and explosions
Total	5,764	5,702	2,480	787	1,001	767	496	158
Alabama	133	128	55	19	23	21	8	-
Alaska	42	29	21	-	-	3	-	-
Arizona	84	99	42	16	17	9	11	-
Arkansas	70	80	53	5	9	8	-	-
California	467	453	165	87	76	59	51	14
Colorado	117	125	76	8	17	9	11	3
Connecticut	54	46	12	14	10	8	-	-
Delaware	10	10	-	-	-	3	-	-
District of Columbia	11	12	-	4	-	4	-	-
Florida	422	404	186	47	39	72	50	8
Georgia	232	200	81	32	31	39	13	3
Hawaii	25	15	6	-	-	3	4	-
Idaho	38	35	15	-	12	5	-	-
Illinois	208	194	74	30	34	24	26	6
Indiana	153	157	72	15	25	23	14	8
Iowa	82	88	44	3	26	8	-	4
Kansas	80	81	40	12	16	4	5	-
Kentucky	143	122	54	16	30	16	5	-
Louisiana	121	106	53	11	18	10	13	-
Maine	16	15	5	-	5	3	-	-
Maryland	81	95	31	23	16	19	4	-
Massachusetts	72	75	23	12	15	14	7	4
Michigan	127	110	40	16	20	19	10	5
Minnesota	80	87	34	12	26	11	3	-
Mississippi	88	111	49	19	20	17	6	-
Missouri	165	183	91	20	42	12	12	6
Montana	39	50	19	8	14	7	-	-
Nebraska	46	36	18	4	10	3	-	-
Nevada	61	57	26	7	7	10	6	-
New Hampshire	15	18	9	-	5	3	-	-
New Jersey	129	111	51	17	16	15	6	5
New Mexico	57	44	23	9	4	4	-	-
New York (including N.Y.C.)	254	239	87	49	40	33	23	7
New York City	107	88	18	29	11	17	9	4
North Carolina	183	165	62	22	31	30	15	5
North Dakota	24	22	9	-	5	5	3	-
Ohio	202	168	71	23	34	18	18	4
Oklahoma	91	95	57	9	10	10	5	4
Oregon	60	65	31	5	15	11	-	-
Pennsylvania	230	223	107	41	30	33	10	-
Rhode Island	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Carolina	113	133	61	18	21	13	17	-
South Dakota	24	28	16	-	7	3	-	-
Tennessee	145	139	70	18	29	14	5	3
Texas	440	495	200	67	80	54	63	31
Utah	50	54	29	-	12	5	4	-
Vermont	7	7	-	-	4	-	-	-
Virginia	171	186	69	22	35	33	21	6
Washington	98	83	40	6	20	8	8	-
West Virginia	58	46	23	5	7	3	7	-
Wisconsin	94	125	48	20	22	25	6	3
Wyoming	43	46	25	3	11	-	-	-

1 State totals include other events and exposures, such as bodily reaction, in addition to those shown separately.

2 The BLS news release issued August 25, 2005, reported a total of 5,703 fatal work injuries for calendar year 2004. Since then, an additional 61 job-related fatalities were identified, bringing the total job-related fatality count for 2004 to 5,764. Includes 2 fatalities that occurred within the territorial boundaries of the United States, but a State of incident could not be determined.

3 Includes 1 fatality that occurred within the territorial boundaries of the United States, but a State of incident could not be determined.

4 Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual.

5 Includes highway, nonhighway, air, water, rail fatalities, and fatalities resulting from being struck by a vehicle.

6 Includes violence by persons, self-inflicted injuries, and attacks by animals.

NOTE: Totals for 2005 are preliminary. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State, New York City, District of Columbia, and Federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

2004 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries Fatality Rates Kentucky

	Total		Industry ¹ (2004)												
	1999-2003	2004	Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting	Mining	Construction	Manufacturing	Transportation and public utilities	Information	Trade	Financial activities	Professional and business services	Education and health services	Leisure and hospitality	Other services	Public administration
Fatality rate ²	6.7	7.6	52.1	50.0	15.5	3.9	33.3	—	6.3	—	4.2	—	—	—	6.2

¹ Classified according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), 2002. Because there are substantial differences between NAICS and the Standard Industrial Classification system used from 1992-2002, comparisons of industry rates between years prior to 2003 and 2004 should not be made.

² Excludes military personnel and workers under age 16. Includes all self-employed, family business, and wage and salary workers. The ownership category Government is not presented separately and may be included in any industry category.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that a fatality rate was not calculated because the data did not meet publication criteria or there were no data reported.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State and Federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries.

Fatality rate computation

Fatality rates may be used to compare the risk of incurring injury among worker groups with varying employment levels. These fatality rates were computed using estimates of civilian workers (age 16 and older) from the Current Population Survey (CPS) and are expressed as the number of fatalities per 100,000 employed. The numerator (fatalities) and denominator (employment) of the rate should refer to the same group of workers as closely as possible. Because CPS employment data exclude workers under the age of 16 and the military, fatalities to these workers were also excluded from the numerator in the calculation. The rates were computed for 2004 and for the previous 5-year period (1999-2003) as:

$$\text{Fatality rate (2004)} = (N_{04}/W_{04}) \times 100,000$$

$$\text{Fatality rate (1999-2003)} = [(N_{99} + N_{00} + N_{01} + N_{02} + N_{03})/(W_{99} + W_{00} + W_{01} + W_{02} + W_{03})] \times 100,000, \text{ where}$$

N_{year} = number of civilian worker fatal injuries, age 16 and older

W_{year} = annual average number of employed civilians, age 16 and older

Fatality rate limitations

- **State of residence versus State of incident**

The CPS counts workers by their State of residence, whereas the CFOI counts workers by State of injury. Fatality rates may be impacted for States with net inflows or outflows of commuters, migrant workers, business travelers, and workers in inter-State transportation. For example, truck drivers incur a large number of occupational fatalities outside their State of residence. For this reason, inter-State comparisons should be made with caution. Comparisons among industries within a State also may be affected by differing inter-State worker inflows and outflows by industries.

- **Primary job versus job at the time of incident**

The CPS annual average employment data used in the rate calculations categorize workers among industries according to their primary job, which may differ from the job held when fatally injured. The CFOI categorizes decedents into the industry in which they were employed at the time of the fatal incident. For example, a person who works full-time as a hotel clerk, but works occasionally for a moving company, is classified in the hotel and motel industry by the CPS. If the worker is fatally injured while working for the moving company, the CFOI classifies the fatality in the transportation industry.

- **Employment sampling errors**

Rather than a complete count, the CPS employment data used to calculate the rates are estimates based on a sample of households which are surveyed to obtain data for all workers in those households. Therefore, the CPS estimates and the fatality rates based on them have sampling errors. The estimates of fatality rates may differ from rates that would have been obtained if it had been possible to take a census of employed persons. Users may use relative standard errors of the CPS employment estimates to approximate confidence intervals for the fatality rates. See "Explanatory notes and estimates of error" in January 2005 *Employment and Earnings* for an explanation of CPS sampling, estimation, and standard error computations.

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